disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 4, 7, and 17-20, and add new Claims 27-31 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Amended) A communication system comprising:

a controller;

a destination node; and

a source node adapted to transfer object data to the destination node asynchronously using a communication protocol selected by the controller and a logical connection set by the controller,

wherein the controller is adapted to obtain information about a communication capability of the source node from a first register of the source node, to obtain information about a communication capability of the destination node from a first register of the destination node, to select a communication protocol using the information obtained from the source node and the destination node, to set a logical connection between the source node and the destination node, to store information about the communication protocol selected by the controller and information about the logical connection set by the controller in a second register of the source node, and to store information about the communication protocol selected by the controller and information about the logical connection set by the controller in a second register of the destination node.

4. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to select a communication protocol using a broadcast transaction or another communication protocol.

7. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein the controller is adapted to select a communication protocol using a write transaction or another communication protocol.

17. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein a communication line of the communication system is a serial bus.

18. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein the communication system conforms to a IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

19. (Amended) A communication system according to claim 1, wherein the object data includes image data.

20. (Amended) A communication method to be used in a communication system that includes at least a controller, a destination node, and a source node adapted to transfer object data to the destination node asynchronously using a communication protocol selected by the controller and a logical connection set by the controller, the method comprising

the steps of:

obtaining information about a communication capability of the source node from a first register of the source node;

obtaining information about a communication capability of the destination node from a first register of the destination node;

selecting a first or a second communication protocol using the information obtained from the source node and the destination node;

setting a logical connection between the source node and the destination node;

storing information about the communication protocol and information about the logical connection set by the controller in a second register of the source node; and

storing information about the communication protocol selected by the controller and information about the logical connection set by the controller in a second register of the destination node.

27. (New) A communication method according to claim 20, wherein the controller is adapted to select a communication protocol using a broadcast transaction or another communication protocol.

28. (New) A communication method according to claim 20, wherein the controller is adapted to select a communication protocol using a write transaction or another communication protocol.